

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

LUIS MERCADO GUZMAN,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	Civil Action No. 3:24-61
)	
v.)	
)	
WARDEN MOSHANNON VALLEY)	Magistrate Judge Patricia L. Dodge
PROCESSING CENTER.)	
)	
Respondent.)	

ORDER

All habeas cases filed with this Court are initially assigned only to a magistrate judge by the Clerk of Court. The petitioner and respondents are then asked to execute and file with the Clerk's Office a selection form either consenting to the jurisdiction of the magistrate judge or electing to have the case randomly assigned to a district judge. If any party elects to have the case assigned to a district judge, the magistrate judge continues to manage the case by deciding non-dispositive motions and submitting reports and recommendations on dispositive motions, unless otherwise directed by the district judge. The United States District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania strongly encourages your voluntary participation and cooperation in the expanded use of the magistrate judges as judicial officers with full authority to manage and ultimately dispose of civil actions by consenting to have a United States Magistrate Judge conduct any and all further proceedings in the case.

AND NOW, this 26th day of March, 2024, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that on or before **April 10, 2024**, the Petitioner must file with the Clerk of Court the enclosed form indicating whether he consents to jurisdiction by a magistrate judge, or elects to have a district judge assigned to the case. Petitioner shall complete **either** Part 1 or Part 2 of the enclosed form.

BY THE COURT:

s/Patricia L. Dodge
PATRICIA L. DODGE
United States Magistrate Judge

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(Complete either Part 1 or Part 2)

**PART 1: CONSENT TO JURISDICTION BY
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE**

In accordance with the provisions of Section 636(c)(1) of Title 28, United States Code, I hereby voluntarily consent to have a United States Magistrate Judge conduct any and all further proceedings in the case, including the entry of a final judgment, with direct review by the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit if an appeal is filed.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

PART 2: DISTRICT JUDGE OPTION

Pursuant to Section 636(c)(2) of Title 28, United States Code, I acknowledge the availability of a United States Magistrate Judge but elect to have this case randomly assigned to a United States District Judge.

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Print Name: _____